

Coalition Statement of Support for the Global Food Security Act of 2015 (H.R. 1567)

As organizations engaged in efforts to end global hunger, malnutrition, and extreme poverty, we applaud the House of Representatives for passing the Global Food Security Act of 2015 (H.R. 1567). We thank Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) for their leadership, and now urge the Senate to swiftly pass this important bill.

We again thank Representatives Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ), Betty McCollum (D-MN), Edward R. Royce (R-CA), Eliot L. Engel (D-NY), Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE), Karen Bass (D-CA), Ander Crenshaw (R-FL), Rosa L. DeLauro (D-CT), David G. Reichert (R-WA), Adam Smith (D-WA), Erik Paulsen (R-MN), David N. Cicilline (D-RI), James P. McGovern (D-MA), and the [other co-sponsors](#) for strongly supporting the bill. These Members of Congress are well-known leaders in the fight against global hunger and malnutrition, as well as champions of small-scale producers' efforts to lift themselves out of poverty.

Globally, 795 million people are hungry and malnutrition causes nearly half of all deaths of children under 5 (3.1 million children) each year. Hunger and malnutrition prevent millions of people in developing countries from living healthy, productive lives and stunt the mental and physical development of future generations.

After decades of declining support for farmers in developing countries, renewed U.S. leadership from President Bush and now President Obama has sparked a global commitment to help people feed themselves. Governments, nongovernmental and civil society organizations, academic and research institutions, businesses, multilateral institutions, and farmers themselves have all recommitted to fighting extreme hunger and malnutrition through new agriculture-focused investments. The impacts are clear. Growth in the agriculture sector is 11 times as effective at reducing poverty as growth in other sectors in sub-Saharan Africa.

The bipartisan Global Food Security Act is an exciting step forward in building the political will needed to end global hunger and malnutrition in our lifetime. The Act includes the development and implementation of a comprehensive, whole-of-government strategy to combat hunger and malnutrition in developing countries. The strategy focuses on increasing sustainable and equitable agricultural development; reducing global hunger; and improving nutrition – especially in the key first 1,000 days between a woman's pregnancy and her child's second birthday. The legislation also promotes country ownership and accountability, improving upon existing monitoring and evaluation practices to ensure U.S. taxpayer investments are implemented transparently, efficiently, and effectively.

This legislation seeks to capture and improve upon the successes the U.S. government is already achieving through its Feed the Future Initiative. Drawing on resources and expertise from 11 federal agencies, Feed the Future is investing in national agriculture investment strategies and is helping countries, including 19 focus countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia, transform their agricultural sectors and sustainably produce enough nutritious food to feed their people. The Initiative has already achieved impressive results: in 2013, Feed the Future reached more than 12.5 million children with nutrition interventions and helped nearly 7 million farmers and producers with new technologies and management practices on more than 4 million hectares of land.

We support final passage of the Global Food Security Act, We look forward to continuing to work with Congress and the Administration to make the Global Food Security Act law and ensure U.S. leadership continues to sustainably tackle global hunger, malnutrition, and extreme poverty in the most effective ways possible.

1. 1,000 Days
2. ACDI/VOCA
3. Action Against Hunger
4. ActionAid USA
5. ADRA International
6. Alliance for Global Food Security
7. Alliance to End Hunger
8. American Academy of Pediatrics
9. American Jewish World Service
10. Amref Health Africa
11. Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD)
12. Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
13. Auburn University Hunger Solutions Institute
14. Bread for the World
15. CARE USA
16. Catholic Relief Services
17. Church World Service
18. Concern Worldwide US
19. Congressional Hunger Center
20. Counterpart International
21. Edesia
22. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
23. Fabretto Children's Foundation
24. Farm Journal Foundation
25. Food for the Hungry
26. FRB - Foods Resource Bank
27. Global Food Exchange, LLC
28. Global Harvest Initiative
29. Global Health Council
30. Global Poverty Project
31. Global Water Challenge
32. GrainPro Inc.
33. Heartland Global, Inc.
34. Heifer International
35. Helen Keller International
36. INMED Partnerships for Children
37. InterAction
38. International Medical Corps
39. Islamic Relief USA
40. JAM - Joint Aid Management
41. John Snow, Inc.
42. Lutheran World Relief
43. MANA Nutrition
44. Mercy Corps
45. Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
46. NCBA CLUSA
47. ONE
48. One Acre Fund
49. Outreach, Inc.
50. Oxfam America
51. PCI
52. Presbyterian Church (USA)
53. Salesian Missions, Inc.
54. Save the Children
55. Self Help Africa
56. Stop Hunger Now
57. The Borgen Project
58. The Episcopal Church
59. The Global FoodBanking Network
60. The Hunger Project
61. United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries
62. U.S. Fund for UNICEF
63. Volunteers for Economic Growth Alliance (VEGA)
64. Water for South Sudan, Inc.
65. Women Thrive Worldwide
66. World Concern
67. World Food Program USA
68. World Vision